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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Multinational Programming and Operational
Centre for Eastern and Southern African
States (MULPOC)

Seventh Meeting of the Council of Ministers

12 - 14 March, 1984
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

DRAFT REPORT

A. INTRODUCTION

1. The Seventh meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Council of Ministers was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 12 to 14 March 1984.

2. It was a regular meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Council of Ministers convened in accordance with Resolution 311 (XIII) of the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOC) adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers held in March 1977 in Kinshasa, Zaire.

B. OPENING OF THE MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Opening of the meeting

3. The meeting was formally opened at 11.00 hours on 12 March 1984 by Comrade Addis Tedla, PMAC Standing Committee Member, Deputy Chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council and COPWE Executive Committee Member of Socialist Ethiopia. Hon. Prince Nqaba Minister of Trade of the Kingdom of Swaziland made introductory remarks in his capacity as the outgoing Chairman of the Sixth meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Council of Ministers before he invited Comrade Addis Tedla to officially open the meeting. Professor Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa also delivered a statement. A vote of thanks was moved by the Hon. R. C. Hove, Minister of Trade and Commerce and leader of the Zimbabwe Delegation on behalf of all the delegations.

Attendance

4. The meeting was attended by Ministers and officials from the following member States of the subregion : Angola, Botswana, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The following observers from the United Nations and its specialized Agencies, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and liberation movements also attended : United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), Southern African Team for Employment Promotion (ILO/SATEP), International Trade Centre (ITC), United Nations Environment

Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (ESAMRDC), the Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping (ISCOS), Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA), Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), and the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO).

Election of officers

5. The meeting elected the following as members of the Bureau :

Chairman	- H.E. Comrade Wollie Checkol	(Ethiopia)
Vice-Chairman	- H.E. Mr. O.I. Chilumbe	(Botswana)
Rapporteur	- H.E. Mr. F. Chuula	(Zambia)

C. AGENDA

6. The meeting adopted the following agenda :

(a) Opening of the meeting
(b) Election of the Bureau
(c) Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of work
(d) Presentation of the report and recommendations of the Seventh meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Committee of Officials
(e) Consideration of the report
(f) Any other business
(g) Date and venue of the next meeting of the Council of Ministers
(h) Adoption of the Report
(i) Closure of the meeting.

D. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

7. The outgoing Chairman of the Sixth Meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Council of Ministers, H.E. Prince Nqaba invited Professor Adebayo Adedeji, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to make a statement.

8. In his statement Professor Adebayo Adedeji, welcomed all delegations to Africa Hall, the Headquarters of the ECA and to the Seventh Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC. He expressed his appreciation to the respective Governments for having sent delegates to the meeting which was convened at short notice.

9. He also expressed his deep gratitude to the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia for consenting also at very short notice to host the meetings, which along with Comrade Addis Tedla's presence at this opening ceremony was a further demonstration of Ethiopia's complete dedication to the cause of co-operation and integration in Eastern and Southern Africa.

10. Professor Adebayo Adedeji paid tribute to Mr. Arthur Blumeris, Secretary General of SADCC, who passed away on the previous week after a brief illness. He asked the Council of Ministers to observe a minute of silence in memory of Mr. Arthur Blumeris.

11. In examining the recommendations of the report of the Committee of Officials, and in charting new directions and directives for the next two years, he urged the Council of Ministers to take full cognizance of the current drought which is assuming emergency proportions in the Eastern and Southern African Subregion. He cited inter alia Botswana, Mozambique and Zimbabwe as most affected countries. He lamented that drought and desertification were no longer confined to the Sudano-Sahelian region of West Africa but had unfortunately a firm grip as well in Eastern and Southern Africa.

12. He drew the attention of the Council of Ministers to a scientific Round Table Conference on Africa's Climatic Situation held in Africa Hall from 20 - 23 February 1984 and emphasized the adverse socio-economic effects of drought cyclones, earthquakes and flood on the fragile economies of the African countries. The findings and proposals of this Round Table as to how to deal with this situation will be presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers to be held next month in Conakry. Further the OAU Council of Ministers at its 40th session had invited the ECA Conference of Ministers to forward its own proposals to the forthcoming meeting of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

13. The above described situation is what led the Secretary-General of the United Nations to sensitize the international community about the seriousness of the African situation and the need for the entire international community to assist Africa.

14. He drew the attention of the Council of Ministers to the key role which the Lusaka-based MULPOC is expected to play both as the only organization to include all member States of the Subregion and as a technical and operational arm of the ECA, acting as a catalyst and also assisting and working closely with existing groupings such as the PTA and SADCC. He pointed out that in the eyes of the ECA secretariat, the PTA ECOWAS and the newly established Central African Economic Community were the three main instrumentalities for achieving the ultimate objective of the Final Act of Lagos i.e. the establihsment of an African Economic Community by the year 2000. He finally welcomed the new Director of the MULPOC, Mr. Jama Rabileh, and hoped the Ministers and Officials would extend them their full cooperation.

15. In his opening statement, Comrade Addis Tedla extended a warm and brotherly welcome to the Council of Ministers on behalf of Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of COPWE and Commander in Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and current Chairman of the OAU. He thanked the Ministers, the Committee of Officials and Professor Adedeji for their unvaluable work in making the Lusaka-based MULPOC an operationally functional institution.

16. He made reference to the crisis facing Africa as a whole and the subregion in particular the sectors of food, energy, industry and trade and requested the Council of Ministers to undertake an in-depth examination of the current economic and social situation. He attributed the present economic crisis to the deffective existing international economic system that needs to be recast to meet the demands of the developing countries for adequate transfer of resources and an equitable disbursement of these resources on a continuous and assured basis In this respect he called for a restructuring of the international institutions that mobilize and manage these resources.

He drew the attention to the need to adapt the MULPOC Work Programme to the realities of the day in such a manner as to complement at the subregional level the efforts that are being made to manage the current African crises at the regional and international levels.

17. He mentioned a number of issues that in trying to adapt the MULPOC Work Programme to the realities of the day, the Ministers should discuss among themselves including that relating to the need to avoid the proliferation of superfluous subregional organs which may create unnecessary duplication and dilution of our developmental efforts. And now that the PTA has been established and is involved in the whole range of cooperation in developmental sectors, there was need to rationalize the activities of the PTA and any other bodies within the subregion such as SADCC and to redefine even the role of the MULPOC itself.

Présentation of the Report and Recommendations of the Seventh Meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Committee of Officials (Agenda Item 4)

18. The Chairman of the Seventh Meeting of the Committee of Officials Dr. Shibabaw Yimenu tabled the report of the meeting which covered the recommendations made with respect to transport and communications, industry, agriculture, human resources planning, development and utilization, integration of women in development, natural resources, trade, monetary and financial co-operation, the Pan-African Documentation and Information System, special projects on economic assistance to liberation movements in Southern Africa and the Lusaka MULPOC Work Programme for 1984-85.

19. He then presented the recommendations of the Committee of Officials to the Council of Ministers for consideration and possible adoption by it.

20. The Council of Ministers took note of the report of the Chairman of the Seventh meeting of the Committee of Officials.

Consideration of the report (Agenda Item 5)

I. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Progress report on ECA activities in the field of Inland Water Transport

21. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendment.

Progress report on ECA activities in the field of ports

22. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendment.

Progress report on ECA activities in roads and road transport

23. In the debate on paragraphs 34 and 35 of this progress report the point was made that there was no necessary conflict between the construction of roads and their maintenance. Both aspects have equal priority. The Executive Secretary explained that the problem of maintenance of plant and equipment was a general one in Africa, hence the emphasis was being laid, during the Second Phase of the

Transport Decade, on road maintenance rather than road construction which was taken for granted. The meeting then requested the Secretariat to make available to the member States maps of the Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway and the Trans-East African Highway showing clearly the latest status of works of construction of each highway. It was necessary for both the ECA Transport Committee and the Highway Authority Committee to exchange information on road transport. The meeting then took note of this agenda item.

Report on the Implementation of the First Phase of the Decade Programme

24. The Council of Ministers noted this agenda item with an amendment, to the effect that the 456 transport, projects therein referred to would cost US $ 14.3 million and not US $ 44.3 million as stated in the Officials report.

II. INDUSTRY

Industrial Development Decade for Africa : Identification of priority multinational projects for implementation of the IDDA

25. The Council of Ministers noted this agenda item without amendment.

Report on the development of iron and steel and engineering industries in Eastern and Southern Africa

26. The leader of the delegation of Zimbabwe wondered how the question of ownership was raised in paragraph 59 of the report . On its part Zimbabwe was spending Zimbabwe Dollars 500 million on improvements to ZISCOSTEEL. The corporation would then be owned 100% by the Government as against the present Government.holding of 51% and of 49% private shareholders. The meeting then took note of this report.

Report of the Third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Chemicals for Eastern and Southern Africa (18-20 October 1983, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

27. The delegation of Tanzania explained that Tanzania's Ammonia/Urea project had reached such an advanced stage of implementation that it was too late for member States of the MULPOC to acquire shares in the project. Consequently,

it might be preferable for the countries of the subregion to purchase their ammonia and urea from Tanzania rather than from outside Africa once the plant started production. It was estimated that production would rise to 970,000 tons of ammonia and 475 tons of urea within a few years of start of production.

28. The Council then took note of this report.

Progress report on the implementation of Resolution I (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5) on funding the conversion of Serere Research Station into a subregional centre for research and development of composite flours from sorgum, millet, other cereals and cassava

29. After a long discussion on this item the Council of Ministers agreed:

(a) that the work being done in the Food Technology Institute in Dakar, and the Food Research Centre in Khartoum in the field of composite flours was not intended to meet the requirements of the Eastern and Southern African subregion;

(b) that the last sentence of paragraph 71 of the report should be transposed to paragraph 73 so that it reads:

> "The meeting agreed however that the project relating to the conversion of Serere Research Station into a subregional institution having arisen from a ministerial decision should remain as a MULPOC project";

(c) That sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 25 of the report of the Fifth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC, Lusaka, Zambia, 23-25 March 1982, be re-iterated, namely "that noting the outstanding work by Uganda's Severe Research Station, especially in sorghum and millet breeding and seed multiplication, the Ministers decided that Uganda be considered as a subregional Centre for development and training in composite flours in millet, sorghum and cassava technology";

(d) That, further, the provisions of Resolution I of the Sixth meeting of the Council of Ministers, Lusaka MULPOC, Mbabane, Swaziland, 14-16 February 1983, be re-iterated, namely, that "Recalling that the Fifth Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC held in Lusaka from 23-25 March 1982 approved the conversion of Serere Research Station into a subregional institution for Research and Development of composite flours from wheat, millet, maize, grain, legumes and tuber crops e.g. cassava";

(e) That previous decisions of the Council of Ministers, taken after serious consideration by Experts and Ministers, should not be jettisoned later, for financial reasons, especially after the country concerned (Uganda in this case) has, acting in good faith, expended large sums of money (US$ 3 million in this case) on the strength of the aforementioned ministerial resolution;

(f) That in view of the financial crisis facing the member States, the ECA secretariat should intensify its activities of mobilising external financial support for the Serere Research Station without exonerating the member States from assuming their proper share of financial obligations to the Centre;

(g) That the Government of Uganda must in due course advise the member States of the subregion, through the MULPOC Secretariat of the detailed terms and conditions under which countries of the subregion could join the centre. Once the countries have signified their acceptance of these terms and conditions, the Centre must be handed over to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) to oversee. The fact that some

countries of the subregion were not yet members of the PTA should not be an inseparable obstacle since none had said they would never join the PTA and the reasonable expectation was that they would all join PTA in due course;

(h) That in future great care must be taken before reaching decisions that committed member States financially since all countries were experiencing serious financial problems at the present time and were having to contribute to the sharing of several subregional and regional institutions they could ill afford. If this was not done these institutions could become a source of subregional disputes and division rather than of unity.

Progress report on Marketing Study for the Promotion of Wooden Furniture Exports from Eastern and Southern Africa

30. The Council of Ministers, in taking note of this report which was considered, to be of great interest, regretted that member states had not been supplied with the documents for careful study before this meeting. The Secretariat was requested to make available in future all supporting documents to delegates in time to enable them to study them in depth before the meeting.

Progress report on Reformulation of Building Codes and Regulations

31. The Council of Ministers noted the report without amendment.

III. AGRICULTURE

(a) Feasibility Study for Establishing a Subregional Maize Research Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa.

32. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendments.

(b) Progress Report on the Implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN)

(i) Monitoring the Implementation of AFPLAN at Country and Subregional levels.

33. The Council of Ministers noted the Report without amendments.

(ii) Food Waste and Losses Reduction - Eastern and Southern African Subregion.

34. The Council of Ministers decided that the MULPOC should set-up a mechanism to co-ordinate all activities related to food waste reduction including the monitoring of drought and desertification in the subregion.

(iii) Improvement of Agricultural Marketing Institutions for Food Crops and Livestock Production by small scale farmers.

35. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendments.

(iv) Agricultural Pricing Policies - Africa.

36. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendments.

(v) Progress Report on the First ECA/FAO Project Analysis Course for the Eastern and Southern African Subregion

37. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendments.

(vi) Institutional Problems of Small Farmers

38. The Council of Ministers decided that in view of the:

(a) importance of livestock and fisheries in the subregion; and

(b) lack of strong programme in the MULPOC in these sectors, the ECA/MULPOC Secretariat should initiate programmes in these areas.

IV. HUMAN RESOURCES PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND UTILISATION

39. The Council of Ministers noted the amendments.

Progress Report on the Activities of ESAMI

40. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendments.

Report on Integrated Regional Training, Research and Advisory Programme for the Conservation and Management of African Wildlife

41. The leader of the delegation of Tanzania explained that Tanzania had no intention of transforming Mweka College into a subregional institution. The College would therefore remain a national institution. She assured the member States however that there would always be places for their trainees at Mweka.

42. The leader of the delegation of Zimbabwe questioned the authority of the MULPOC to establish subregional institutions with all the financial implications that such decisions involved. He preferred member States to open the doors of their national institutions to trainees from other countries of the subregion rather than the creation of new and expensive subregional institutions.

43. The leader of the delegation of Kenya said they would pursue the matter further with Tanzania and thereafter make a proposal to the ECA Secretariat.

44. The Executive Secretary said the authority to establish new subregional institutions was vested in the Council of Ministers. Their reluctance to establish such institutions was in line with the feeling of the ECA Council of Ministers as expressed in Resolution 477(XVIII) to the effect that proliferation of new institutions should be avoided if there were other alternatives.

45. The meeting then noted the policy statement made by the Tanzanian delegation on the future of Mweka College.

46. The meeting noted the report.

Report on the Subregional Graduate School of Management for Eastern and Southern Africa

47. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendments.

Report on the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research - Nairobi

48. The leader of the delegation of Zimbabwe referred to paragraph 144 of the Report of the Committee of Officials regarding the signature of the Constitution of the Institute and the making of payments to its budget and explained that in view of Zimbabwe's financial constraints, the impending ECA mission should not expect any assistance from Zimbabwe. At this point, the Executive Secretary explained the origin of this regional Institute and appealed to members of the Subregion to sign its Constitution and contribute to its budget if at all possible.

Report on the Development of Institutional Capability for Manpower Planning

49. The Council of Ministers accepted the recommendations which appear on paragraph 149 of the Report of the Committee of Officials, without amendment.

Report on implementation of the Recommendations of the ECA/AAU Joint Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa on the Lagos Plan of Action

50. The Council of Ministers adopted the recommendations as they appear in paragraph 155 of the Report of the Committee of Officials without amendment.

Progress report on the activities of the Southern African Labour Commission (SALC)

51. The Council of Ministers adopted this report without amendment.

Progress report on a Study of Skill Profiles and Manpower Requirements in the field of Customs Administration in Eastern and Southern Africa Subregion

52. The Council noted the report without amendment.

Progress Report on the Implementation of the Project on Integration of Women in Development (Women's Programme)

53. Upon being assured of the reasons for confining the workshop referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 165 of the report of the meeting of officials the integration of women in development, the Council of Ministers adopted the following recommendations:

(a) Member Countries should provide more support to women concerns and programmes in accordance with Resolution III of the Sixth Meeting of Council of Ministers;
(b) Member States should expedite responses in the communications for arrangements of project activities;
(c) Member Countries should undertake follow-up action at country level to ensure a multiplier effect of activities such as workshops;
(d) Member States holding chairmanship of the subregional Committee on Integration of women in Development, should include the chairperson of the subregional committee in the delegation to the MULPOC Policy Organs Meetings.

V. NATURAL RESOURCES

Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the First Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa

54. The Council of Ministers was informed of the slow progress being made in the implementation of the decisions of its last meeting regarding the establishment of Subregional mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the Arusha Recommendations on mineral resources in the subregion (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/6(a)).

55. In response to a request for clarification regarding sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 167 of the report, regarding the proposed subregional committee on mineral resources development, the secretariat stated that the subregional committee would be a consultative and advisory body of representatives of member States which would meet from time to time to monitor the implementation of the Arusha recommendations at national and subregional levels.

56. The secretariat further informed the Council that the First Regional Conference on the development and utilization of mineral resources in Africa held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, during February 1981 called upon African countries to co-operate in the development of their mineral resources in the following main areas: the building up of technical knowledge of the mineral resources base; the development of capabilities for mineral extraction, processing and for marketing of mineral products; development of intra-African markets for minerals and mineral products; manpower development; development of mineral exploration, mining and processing equipment industries; research and development; creation of financing, investment and insurance institutions; and the protection of the environment.

57. The meeting then noted the report.

Progress Report on the implementation of resolution IV of the Sixth MULPOC Council of Ministers

58. The Council of Ministers was informed that no improvement had been made by member States concerning the implementation of Resolution IV of its last meeting which called upon all the member States of the Subregion to participate effectively in the operation of the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (ESAMRDC) (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII(b)).

59. The Secretariat expressed the view that probably a period of one year since the last meeting might have been too short a period for member States to take the necessary action in response to this Resolution.

60. The meeting then noted the report.

Natural Resources

61. Paragraph 175 of the report was amended in line 2 from the top to read "The Peoples' Republic of Mozambique..."

62. The meeting then noted the Report.

Progress report on energy development in the subregion

63. The Council of Ministers recommended that the next meeting of the Committee of Officials should discuss this subject matter fully and make concrete recommendations on the basis of papers to be prepared by the Secretariat because energy is an important sector of development.

64. The Council of Ministers then noted the report.

Development of water resources in Africa

65. The Council of Ministers noted this report without amendment.

Progress Report on the implementation of the MULPOC Work Programme in the fields of Trade, Monetary and Financial Co-operation

(a) Progress report on the Trade activities of the PTA for Eastern and Southern African States

66. The Council of Ministers was appraised of the assistance the Lusaka-based MULPOC was rendering to the PTA in the implementation of its Work Programme and took note of the report.

(b) Report on the establishment of an Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Eastern and Southern Africa

67. The Council of Ministers was informed that work on the establishment of an Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Eastern and Southern Africa was still at its conceptual stage and agreed that, at its final stage, there should be close collaboration with the PTA in order to avoid unnecessary duplication.

(c) Progress Report on the Establishment of the Trade Promotion Training Centre for Eastern and Southern African States

68. The Council of Ministers took note of the report on this agenda item and directed the MULPOC to take all necessary action to ensure the effective implementation of the recommendations contained in the report.

(d) Report on the establishment of an Eastern and Southern Africa Trade and Development Bank

69. The Council of Ministers took note of the assistance that the MULPOC was rendering to the PTA under this agenda item.

(e) Review of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of trade monetary and financial co-operation in the Lusaka-based MULPOC area

70. The Council of Ministers took note of the report on this agenda item without amendment.

(f) Report on the establishment of an Eastern and Southern African Clearing House

71. The meeting took note of the report on this agenda item without amendment.

PADIS report on assistance by ECA to member States in the establishment of PADIS National Centres and of the Eastern and Southern African Documentation System (ESADIS).

72. The Council of Ministers took note of the report on this agenda item without amendment.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

(a) Assistance to Liberation Movements

73. The Council of Ministers took note of the report on this agenda item and pledged continued support to the Liberation Movements.

(b) Progress report on the implementation of studies on Economic Sanctions against South Africa and an Economic Development Strategy for Post-Apartheid South Africa

74. Paragraph 223 of the report was amended to read as follows:

"The Mozambique delegation stressed that the purpose of the sanctions project must also be to look into practical ways and means for assisting South Africa's neighbours".

75. The meeting then agreed that the Secretariat should take early action to obtain a response from the UNDP Headquarters, in order that the implementation of the projects may commence without further delay.

Progress report on the Committee established by the sixth Meeting of the Council of Ministers on the co-ordination of the operations of PTA, SADCC and MULPOC

76. After some discussion the meeting agreed to delete paragraphs 226, 227 and 228 from the report on this agenda item and to substitute the following new paragraphs 226 therefor:

"226, Unfortunately, owing to various difficulties, the Secretariat was unable to convene meetings of the sub-committee during the year. However, the Secretariat would convene the meeting of the sub-committee of five member States, assisted by the Secretariat of the PTA and SADCC, not later than the 30 June 1984 and report to the eighth meeting of the Council of Ministers in accordance with paragraph 74 of the report of the sixth meeting of the Council of Ministers held in Mbabane, Swaziland, 14-16 February 1983."

Preparation of the fifth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and 19th Session of the Commission and tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, Conakry, Guinea

77. The Executive Secretary informed the Council that the agenda for the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers had to be restructured in view of the overall economic and social crisis confronting Africa especially in the fields of food and agriculture, resulting largely from the severe drought that much of Africa had experienced in recent years. He urged the Ministers to attend the Conakry session of ECA Council of Ministers and participate fully on the debate on this agenda item and come prepared to give status reports on drought in their respective countries so that concrete proposals could come out of this meeting.

Resolutions:

78. (a) Eight draft resolutions were each amended by deleting the word "draft" in their titles.

(b) Preambular paragraph 3 of Resolution 1 was amended to read as follows:

"Taking into account the stages that have been reached in the restructuring of Zimbabwe's ZISCOSTEEL and Tanzania's ammonia/urea complex;"

(c) Operative paragraph 4 of Resolution 1 was amended to read:

"Requests Zimbabwe and the United Republic of Tanzania, with the assistance of the Lusaka MULPOC, to organise consultation meetings on ZISCOSTEEL and the ammonia/urea complex respectively with a view to determining the part, if any, that the countries of the subregion may play in these projects;"

(d) Resolution VII was amended in operative paragraph 1, line 2, to read:

"... of Southern Africa;"

(e) Resolution VII was amended in operative paragraph 6, line 1, to read:

"Requests the Executive Secretary..." and in line 3 to read: "financing of the two projects..."

The meeting then adopted the eight resolutions as amended.

Any other business

79. The Council of Ministers endorsed the sentiments expressed by the officials in their report under this agenda item.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 6)

80. There was no discussion under this agenda item.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (Agenda Item 7)